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Bombardier Q400 prices may fall 10% with SAS fleet sale

The sale of 27 Bombardier Q400 aircraft by Scandinavian Airlines could drive the market value of the turboprop down by 10%, according to a Flight International article.

Aircraft financing expert Eddy Pieniazek of Ascend consultancy is quoted in the article speculating that the planes going on the market will soften prices for the turboprop.

The resale value of SAS's Q400 would be about US\$11.8-million each as of September, he said. But once SAS moves to get rid of its Q400 fleet, that price could drop to US\$10.7-million.

A new Q400 has a list value of \$20.7-million and Mr. Pieniazek said he expects that value to drop to US\$18.8-million because of the extra aircraft on the market.

"I suspect the grounding may be a tactical effort by SAS to leverage their position with financiers and the manufacturer," he said in the article.

"Frankly, this seems unprecedented for an airline to attack a manufacturer in such a fashion. Imagine the outcry if a manufacturer said, 'don't fly airline X because they can't maintain our aircraft correctly'."

SAS said it would ground its entire fleet of Q400s in October following a third crash involving the aircrafts landing gear in less than two months.

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